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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 5270**  
Hideaki SHIBATA et al. : Docket No. 2004\_0490  
Serial No. 10/808,403 : Group Art Unit 2621  
Filed March 25, 2004 : Examiner Not Yet Assigned

IMAGE CODING METHOD, IMAGE  
CODING AND DECODING METHOD,  
IMAGE CODING APPARATUS, AND IMAGE  
RECORDING AND REPRODUCTION APPARATUS

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

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**SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Further to the Preliminary Amendment filed on March 25, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows: